


# Contents at a Glance

<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Part I: Introducing Boston</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Chapter 1: Discovering the Best of Boston .....	9
Chapter 2: Digging Deeper into Boston .....	16
Chapter 3: Deciding When to Go .....	26
Chapter 4: Managing Your Money .....	33
<b>Part II: Planning Your Trip to Boston</b> .....	<b>43</b>
Chapter 5: Getting to Boston .....	45
Chapter 6: Catering to Special Travel Needs or Interests .....	55
Chapter 7: Taking Care of the Remaining Details .....	64
<b>Part III: Settling Into Boston</b> .....	<b>73</b>
Chapter 8: Arriving and Getting Oriented .....	75
Chapter 9: Checking In at Boston's Best Hotels .....	92
Chapter 10: Dining and Snacking in Boston .....	116
<b>Part IV: Exploring Boston</b> .....	<b>143</b>
Chapter 11: Discovering Boston's Best Attractions .....	145
Chapter 12: Shopping the Local Stores .....	180
Chapter 13: Following an Itinerary: Seven Great Options .....	193
Chapter 14: Going Beyond Boston: Four Day Trips .....	207
<b>Part V: Living It Up after Dark:</b>	
<b>Boston Nightlife</b> .....	<b>231</b>
Chapter 15: Applauding the Cultural Scene .....	233
Chapter 16: Hitting the Clubs and Bars .....	244
<b>Part VI: The Part of Tens</b> .....	<b>253</b>
Chapter 17: The Top Ten Ways Not to Look Like a Tourist.....	255
Chapter 18: The Top Ten Free (or Almost Free) Activities .....	258
Chapter 19: The Top Ten Things to Do in Bad Weather .....	262
<b>Appendix: Quick Concierge</b> .....	<b>265</b>
<b>Index</b> .....	<b>273</b>



# Maps at a Glance



Boston Neighborhoods .....	80
Boston Transit.....	87
Boston Hotels .....	104
Cambridge Hotels .....	106
Boston Dining .....	120
Cambridge Dining .....	122
Boston Attractions .....	146
Cambridge Attractions.....	148
The Freedom Trail .....	157
Boston Shopping.....	182
Newbury Street Shopping .....	185
Harvard Square Shopping .....	189
Day 1 and Day 2 in Boston.....	196
Day 3 in Cambridge .....	198
Boston with Kids.....	202
Boston for Historians .....	206
Lexington .....	211
Concord .....	215
Salem .....	219
Marblehead .....	221
Gloucester and Rockport.....	223
Plymouth .....	229
Boston Performing Arts and Nightlife .....	238
Cambridge Performing Arts and Nightlife.....	240



# Table of Contents



<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
About This Book.....	1
Conventions Used in This Book .....	2
Foolish Assumptions .....	3
How This Book Is Organized.....	3
Part I: Introducing Boston .....	4
Part II: Planning Your Trip to Boston .....	4
Part III: Settling Into Boston.....	4
Part IV: Exploring Boston.....	4
Part V: Living It Up After Dark: Boston Nightlife.....	4
Part VI: The Part of Tens.....	4
Appendix: Quick Concierge .....	4
Icons Used in This Book.....	5
Where to Go from Here.....	5

## ***Part 1: Introducing Boston .....*** 7

<b>Chapter 1: Discovering the Best of Boston .....</b>	<b>9</b>
The Best Travel Experiences .....	9
The Best Hotels .....	10
The Best Restaurants .....	11
The Best Stores .....	12
The Best Ways to Explore History .....	13
The Best Experiences for Kids .....	13
The Best Walks .....	14

<b>Chapter 2: Digging Deeper into Boston .....</b>	<b>16</b>
History 101: The Main Events.....	16
Building Blocks: Local Architecture .....	18
Taste of Boston: Local Cuisine .....	22
Word to the Wise: The Local Lingo .....	23
Background Check: Recommended	
Books and Movies .....	24

<b>Chapter 3: Deciding When to Go .....</b>	<b>26</b>
Revealing the Secrets of the Seasons .....	26
Springtime in Boston .....	27
Summer in Boston .....	27
Fall in Boston.....	28
Winter in Boston .....	28

Perusing a Calendar of Events.....	29
January/February .....	29
March/April .....	30
May/June.....	31
July/August .....	31
September/October .....	32
November/December .....	32
<b>Chapter 4: Managing Your Money .....</b>	<b>33</b>
Planning Your Budget .....	33
Transportation .....	35
Lodging.....	35
Dining .....	36
Sightseeing.....	36
Shopping .....	37
Nightlife.....	37
Cutting Costs — But Not Fun.....	37
Handling Money .....	39
Using ATMs and carrying cash.....	40
Charging ahead with credit cards.....	40
Toting traveler’s checks.....	40
Dealing with a Lost or Stolen Wallet .....	41
<b><i>Part II: Planning Your Trip to Boston.....</i></b>	<b><i>43</i></b>
<b>Chapter 5: Getting to Boston.....</b>	<b>45</b>
Flying to Boston .....	45
Finding out which airlines fly there.....	45
Looking at attractive airport alternatives .....	46
Getting the best deal on your airfare .....	46
Booking your flight online .....	48
Driving to Boston .....	50
Taking the train to Boston .....	50
Choosing a Package Tour.....	51
Joining an Escorted Tour .....	52
<b>Chapter 6: Catering to Special Travel Needs or     Interests .....</b>	<b>55</b>
Traveling with the Brood: Advice for Families .....	55
Family-friendly flying.....	56
Keeping the kids entertained .....	56
Relying on baby-sitting services .....	57
Exploring Boston together.....	57
Making Age Work for You: Tips for Seniors .....	57

Accessing Boston: Advice for Travelers  
with Disabilities .....59

Following the Rainbow: Resources  
for Gay and Lesbian Travelers.....62

**Chapter 7: Taking Care of the Remaining Details.....64**

Renting a Car — Or Not.....64

Playing It Safe with Travel and Medical Insurance .....66

Staying Healthy When You Travel.....67

Staying Connected by Cellphone or E-Mail.....68

    Using a cellphone across the United States .....68

    Using the Internet away from home .....69

Keeping Up with Airline Security Measures .....70

***Part III: Settling Into Boston ..... 73***

**Chapter 8: Arriving and Getting Oriented.....75**

Making Your Way to Your Hotel.....75

    If you arrive by plane .....75

    If you arrive by car .....77

    If you arrive by train.....77

Figuring Out the Neighborhoods .....78

    Downtown.....78

    The Back Bay.....82

    Cambridge.....83

    In the vicinity.....83

Finding Information After You Arrive .....84

Getting Around Boston.....85

    On foot.....85

    By public transit.....85

    By taxi.....89

    By car .....89

**Chapter 9: Checking In at Boston’s Best Hotels.....92**

Getting to Know Your Options .....92

    The Goldilocks factor: What hotel feels right?.....92

    The ABCs of B&Bs.....93

Finding the Best Room at the Best Rate.....93

    Smart shopping.....94

    Surfing the Web for hotel deals.....94

    Reserving the best room.....96

Arriving without a Reservation .....96

Boston’s Best Hotels.....97

Runner-Up Hotels.....110

Index of Accommodations by Neighborhood.....113

Index of Accommodations by Price.....114

**Chapter 10: Dining and Snacking in Boston ..... 116**

Getting the Dish on the Local Scene.....	116
Trimming the Fat from Your Budget.....	117
Boston's Best Restaurants .....	119
Dining and Snacking on the Go.....	134
Picking the picnic option .....	134
Checking out the chains.....	136
Taking teatime.....	136
Bao, wow: Dim sum .....	137
Espresso express .....	137
I scream, you scream.....	137
Index of Restaurants by Neighborhood .....	138
Index of Restaurants by Cuisine.....	139
Index of Restaurants by Price .....	141

**Part IV: Exploring Boston ..... 143****Chapter 11: Discovering Boston's Best Attractions..... 145**

The Top Attractions.....	145
The Freedom Trail.....	156
Finding More Cool Things to See and Do.....	164
Especially for kids.....	165
Especially for teens .....	166
Especially for sports fans .....	166
Especially for art lovers .....	168
For something different .....	169
For architecture admirers.....	170
For history buffs .....	171
For a walk in the park.....	172
For more Cambridge destinations .....	172
Whale-watching.....	173
Seeing Boston by Guided Tour .....	174
Walking tours.....	175
Trolley tours .....	177
Sightseeing cruises .....	177
Duck tours .....	179

**Chapter 12: Shopping the Local Stores ..... 180**

Surveying the Scene .....	180
Checking Out the Big Names .....	180
Discovering the Best Shopping Neighborhoods .....	184
The Back Bay.....	184
Faneuil Hall Marketplace .....	186
Charles Street.....	187

Downtown Crossing.....187  
 The North End.....188  
 Cambridge.....188  
 Index of Stores by Merchandise.....191

**Chapter 13: Following an Itinerary:**

**Seven Great Options .....193**

Boston in One Day .....193  
 Boston in Three Days .....194  
 Boston in Five Days .....199  
 Boston with Kids .....200  
 Boston for Art Lovers .....201  
 Boston for Sports Fans .....204  
 Boston for Day-Tripping Historians .....205

**Chapter 14: Going Beyond Boston:**

**Four Day Trips .....207**

General Pointers.....207  
 Lexington and Concord .....209  
     Getting to Lexington .....209  
     Taking a tour of Lexington and Concord .....209  
     Seeing the sights in Lexington.....210  
     Dining in Lexington.....211  
     Seeing the sights en route from Lexington  
         to Concord .....212  
     Getting to Concord .....212  
     Taking a tour of Concord .....213  
     Seeing the sights in Concord.....213  
     Dining in Concord .....215  
 Salem and Marblehead .....216  
     Getting to Salem .....216  
     Taking a tour of Salem .....217  
     Seeing the sights in Salem .....217  
     Dining in Salem.....218  
     Getting to Marblehead .....220  
     Seeing the sights in Marblehead .....220  
     Dining in Marblehead .....222  
 Gloucester and Rockport .....222  
     Getting to Gloucester .....222  
     Taking a tour of Gloucester .....224  
     Seeing the sights in Gloucester .....224  
     Dining in Gloucester and nearby Essex .....225  
     Getting to Rockport .....226  
     Seeing the sights in Rockport.....226  
     Dining in Rockport.....227

Plymouth.....	227
Getting there.....	227
Taking a tour.....	228
Seeing the sights.....	228
Dining in Plymouth.....	230

***Part V: Living It Up after Dark:***

***Boston Nightlife.....231***

**Chapter 15: Applauding the Cultural Scene .....233**

Getting the Inside Scoop.....	233
Finding Out What’s Playing and Getting Tickets.....	234
Raising the Curtain on the Performing Arts.....	236
Classical music.....	236
Pop and rock music.....	237
Theater.....	237
Dance.....	242
Film.....	243

**Chapter 16: Hitting the Clubs and Bars.....244**

The Basics.....	244
Hanging Out: Boston’s Best-Known Bars.....	245
Where Everybody Knows Your Name:	
Neighborhood Bars.....	245
My Goodness, My Guinness: Irish Bars.....	246
Shaken, Not Stirred: Boston’s Best Lounges.....	247
Shaking Your Groove Thing: The Best Dance Clubs.....	248
Turning Up the Volume: The Best Rock Clubs.....	248
Focusing on the Music: The Best Jazz, Folk,	
and Blues Clubs.....	249
Laughing the Night Away: Comedy Clubs.....	250
Stepping Out: The Gay and Lesbian Scene.....	250

***Part VI: The Part of Tens.....253***

**Chapter 17: The Top Ten Ways Not  
to Look Like a Tourist .....255**

Always Dress in Layers.....	255
Keep Moving.....	255
Stay in Touch with the Freedom Trail.....	256
Don’t Exclaim “That Must Be the	
Old North Church!”.....	256
Be in Your Party Clothes Early.....	256
Bring Cab Fare.....	256
Watch What You Say about Baseball.....	256

Likewise, Chowder .....257  
 Pack the Right Shoes .....257  
 Save the “I Pahked My Cah” Jokes .....257

**Chapter 18: The Top Ten Free**

**(or Almost Free) Activities.....258**

Music Outdoors.....258  
 Music Indoors .....258  
 National Park Service Tours .....259  
 Movies .....259  
 Theater .....259  
 Museums .....260  
 People-Watching.....260  
 Haymarket.....260  
 Street Fairs .....260  
 Hydrotherapy .....261

**Chapter 19: The Top Ten Things to Do**

**in Bad Weather.....262**

Soak Up Some Culture .....262  
 Find a Secret (Indoor) Garden .....262  
 Smell the Popcorn.....263  
 See the World.....263  
 Shop 'til You Drop .....263  
 Feel the Wind in Your Hair .....263  
 Set Sail .....264  
 Consider Pyromania .....264  
 Try Bibliomania, Too .....264  
 Get Out of Town .....264

***Appendix: Quick Concierge.....265***

Fast Facts .....265  
 Toll-Free Numbers and Web Sites .....268  
     Airlines .....268  
     Car-rental agencies .....269  
     Major hotel and motel chains .....270  
 Where to Get More Information .....271  
     Local tourist information offices .....271  
     Newspapers and magazines .....271  
     Other sources of information.....271

***Index.....273***

General Index.....273  
 Accommodations Index.....287  
 Restaurant Index .....288

